

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 33929 302229Z

62

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /078 W

----- 066211

R 301942Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6454

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

FAA BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

UNCLAS PARIS 33929

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, US

SUBJ. CIVAIR: CONCORDE

REF: BORDEAUX 0149

1. REFTEL REPORTED CONCERN OF PRESIDENT TOULOUSE CHAPTER OF FRANCE-ETATS UNIS (MADAME MARIE-MADELEINE BABOULET) ON CONCORDE ISSUE AND HER INTENTION WRITE TO AMBASSADOR THIS SUBJECT. LETTER DATED DEC. 22 HAS NOW BEEN RECEIVED. LETTER ASKS THAT COPIES BE MADE AVAILABLE TO DOT SECRETARY COLEMAN AND DOT DEPUTY SECRETARY BARNUM PRIOR TO JANUARY 5, WHEREBY WE CONCLUDE THAT MADAME BABOULET DESIRES HER VIEWS TO FORM PART OF WHATEVER WRITTEN TESTIMONY MAY SUPPLEMENT ORAL TESTIMONY GIVEN AT JAN. 5 HEARING. (COPIES OF LETTER ARE BEING POUCHED TO DEPT. (EB/AVP) WHICH SHOULD FORWARD COPY TO APPROPRIATE OFFICE IN DOT.

2. LETGR STATES THAT LARGE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE OF TOULOUSE, WHERE CONCORDE IS BUILT, ARE "SURPRISED, INDIGNANT AND DUMBFOUNDED" OVER BITTER OPPOSITION
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PAGE 02 PARIS 33929 302229Z

CONCORDE IS ENCOUNTERING IN US. TOULOUSE POPULATION

UNABLE TAKE SERIOUSLY US OBJECTIONS TO CONCORDE NOISE AND POLLUTION WHEN CONCORDE HAS FOR SOME YEARS BEEN TAKING OFF SEVERALTIMES WEEKLYFROM TOULOUSE AIRPORT LOCATED NOT FAR FROM CITY CENTER AND HAS SOUNDED NO LOUDER THAN ANY OTHER AIRCRAFT. "MAN IN THE STREET" REACTION IN TOULOUSE IS THAT US CARRIERS ARE FEARFUL OF COMPETITION AND "ARE PAYING THE AUTHORITIES TO BAN CONCORDE". LETTER CONCLUDES THAT IF AFTER JAN. 5 HEARING USG DECISION IS NEGATIVE, "THERE WOULD BE SUCH A MOVEMENT OF HOSTILITY HERE TOWARD THE UNITED STATES THAT OUR ASSOCIATION WOULD HAVE TO DISAPPEAR. AS FOR MYSELF, I WOULD NO LONGER HAVE THE COURAGE TO CONTINUE ACTING ON BEHALF OF A COUNTRY WHICH DEGENDS ITS OWN FREE ENTERPRISE BUT NOT THAT OF OTHERS." (QUOTES ARE OUR INFORMAL TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH TEXT.)

3. APPENDED TO LETTER IS COPY OF TRACT DISTRIBUTED BY TRADE UNIONS AT AEROSPATIALE ON DEC. 13 PROTESTING WHAT IS CLAIMED TO BE ANTI-CONCORDE BIAS OF US PRESS AND ALSO SCORING "ANTI-CONCORDE" ACTIONS BY JUSTICE DEPT. AGAINST CONCORDE LOBBYISTS AND EPA ADMINISTRATOR TRAIN'S RECENT REMARKS BEFORE HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE QUESTIONING DESIRABILITY CONCORDE SERVICE TO JFK OR DULLES.

4. WE MIGHT ADD THAT AMCONSUL BORDEAUX HAS BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION (AND POUCHED CLIPPINGS TO DEPT.) THAT TOULOUSE PRESS IS URGING MASSIVE WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN TO DOT SECRETARY COLEMAN IN ORDER OFFSET WEIGHT OF ANTI-CONCORDE VIEWS EMANATING FROM US PUBLIC.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, LANDING RIGHTS, CONCORDE, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS33929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750450-0624
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975124/aaaaadjq.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BORDEAUX 149
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: CONCORDE
TAGS: EAIR, FR, US, (BABOULET, MARIE MADELEINE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006